

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR ALTERNATE OPERATOR SERVICES (AOS)

- 1. All AOS providers must obtain a certificate of public convenience and necessity from the Commission in order to lawfully provide intrastate interexchange telecommunications services.
- 2. Each AOS provider shall separately file a list of those traffic aggregators with which it has contracted to provide services.
- 3. The traffic aggregator's list shall be updated no less than every six months.
- 4. All AOS providers must file tariffs with the Commission which set forth the services provided and the charges for those services.
- 5. Any surcharges that an AOS provider collects for remittance to the traffic aggregator must also be set forth.
- 6. Only those rates filed and approved by the Commission may be charged.
- 7. Any AOS provider tariff that sets its tariffed rates at or below the tariffed operator services rates for existing interexchange carriers will be deemed just and reasonable.
- 8. Any AOS provider that desires to charge above the existing tariffed rates shall file cost, revenue and expense data justifying the proposed charge. Such tariffs shall require 30 days' notice as required by O.C.G.A. Section 46-2-25(a) and the effective date may be suspended by the Commission for the purpose of conducting a hearing.
- 9. AOS providers may make rate reductions after having given the Commission 14 days' notice. All rate increases shall require 30 days' notice as required by O.C.G.A. Section 46-2-25(a).
- 10. AOS providers may not utilize interstate facilities for the purpose of carrying intrastate traffic.
- 11. All intrastate traffic must be carried over intrastate facilities and appropriate intrastate access charges paid.
- 12. AOS providers may not provide intraLATA service except by means of local exchange company facilities authorized for resale.

- 13. Each AOS provider must file with the Commission a sworn certification from a corporate officer stating that the company is routing intrastate calls over the appropriate intrastate facilities.
- 14. Each AOS provider operator, live and mechanical, shall clearly state the name of the AOS company at the initiation of any encounter with a customer so that the customer is fully informed as to which carrier will be handling his or her call. Each AOS provider operator shall also clearly state the AOS company name at the conclusion of its contact with the customer.
- 15. Whenever a customer desires to utilize a billing mechanism other than direct billing by the AOS provider, such as collect calls, third party billing and calling cards, the operator, live and mechanical, shall advise the customer prior to placing the call that the customer will be charged the AOS provider's rates.
- 16. Each AOS operator shall fully disclose the rate to be charged for the call including surcharges, if requested by the customer.
- 17. Local exchange operators who receive interLATA calls should refer those calls to the presubscribed carrier.
- 18. AOS operators who receive intraLATA calls should refer those calls to the local exchange company. Both local exchange operators and AOS operators who are requested to provide access to interexchange carriers other than those to whom the line is presubscribed may do so by advising the customer to use the dialing sequence chosen by his or her carrier of choice, or by making the connection directly for the customer.
- 19. AOS provider tariffs shall provide that all charges shall be based upon the distance between the originating and the terminating points of the calls as calculated by using the V and H coordinates as set forth in Southern Bell's General Subscriber Services Tariff, Section A18.
- 20. The Alternate Operator Service (AOS) contract with the traffic aggregator must include the following:
 - a. The owner of the instrument shall place on the telephone instrument or within 12 inches of the instrument a clear and conspicuous disclosure that "the telephone has been presubscribed to the AOS provider, that toll service will be provided by the AOS provider and billed by the AOS provider at its rates, that the AOS provider's rates may be obtained by calling the AOS operator, and the method by which the customer may reach the local exchange company operator".

- b. The customer must have access to the local exchange operator through the use of "0". All "0" and "0+" intraLATA calls shall be routed to the local exchange company.
- c. In PBX settings, such access may be provided through the use of the "9-0" dialing pattern. Access to an interexchange carrier operator, including the AOS operator, may be provided by use of the dialing pattern "8-0" as long as it is disclosed on the telephone instrument or on a prominent disclosure within 12 inches, of the method of reaching the local exchange operator.
- d. The traffic aggregator may not block the customer from accessing his or her interexchange carrier of choice by means of the dialing sequence chosen by the particular carrier (for example: 950-xxxx, 1-800 or 10xxxx).
- e. At private pay telephones the customer must be able to access the local exchange operator through the mechanism of dialing "0-" and, for intraLATA calls, by the mechanism of dialing "0+".
- f. Access to the interLATA operator may be provided by the dialing mechanism of "0+" on interLATA calls or "00".
- g. "00" may not be used as the mechanism for accessing the local exchange company operator.